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County of Los Angeles DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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May 22, 2015

To: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor
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From: Philip L. Browning
Director

BOARD MOTION – CONSOLIDATING THE COMPTON REGIONAL EAST/WEST OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

On April 14, 2015, in response to a motion by Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, the Board of Supervisors instructed the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), in conjunction with the Interim CEO to respond to three (3) concerns, relative to the consolidation of the DCFS Compton Regional East/West Offices. The following is DCFS' input to the Board's inquiry.

- Provide the Board of Supervisors with a report outlining the net County cost of operating both the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Compton West and East offices.**

Actual FY 13-14 & Estimated Actual FY 14-15 for Compton East & Compton West offices

Compton East office 921 E. Compton Blvd.	Actual Cost FY 2013 - 2014	Estimated Actual* FY 2014 - 2015
Annual Rental	\$549,267	\$549,267**
Annual Utilities	99,964	105,515
Other Annual Operating Costs (Security)	176,180	178,773**
Total expenditures	\$825,411	\$830,555

Compton West office 11539 Hawthorne Blvd.	Actual Cost FY 2013 - 2014	Estimated Actual* FY 2014 - 2015
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"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

Actual FY 13-14 & Estimated Actual FY 14-15 for Compton East & Compton West offices (Cont.)

Annual Rental	\$515,678	\$515,678**
Annual Utilities	110,149	107,542**
Other Annual Operating Costs (Security)	155,724	160,297**
Total expenditures	\$781,551	\$783,517

Sum of total expenditures	\$1,519,121	\$1,614,072
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**Estimated Actual time frame:*

Annual Utilities: July 2014 to February 2015

Other Annual Operating Costs (Security services):

July 2014 to December 2014

*** Actual months for Annual Rent:*

July 2014 to January 2015

Actual months for Annual Utilities:

July 2014 to February 2015

Actual months for Other Annual Operating Costs (Security services):

July 2014 to December 2014

2. **Prepare a feasibility study to determine the benefits and drawbacks of centralizing business support functions for Compton East and West offices, which would include co-located, multi-service resources and the fiscal requirements necessary to lease and/or build-to-suit County' owned space to accommodate for staffing and client supports.**

DCFS Property Management provided the Chief Executive Office (CEO) - Real Estate Division (RED) with statistical information to facilitate the completion of a comprehensive feasibility study as directed by the Board of Supervisors. DCFS is working closely with CEO-RED to research and analyze this matter in greater depth. In the meantime, DCFS worked with Compton East and West regional administration to determine the social services delivery benefits and drawbacks of centralizing business support functions for Compton East and West offices.

Benefits to East/West Consolidation:

- Promotes increased collaboration between regional office programs and co-located community partners.
- Promotes continuity of services for clients.
- Reduces timeframe for response to ER referrals.
- Provides the opportunity to co-locate multi-service programs (i.e., DMH; DPSS; DHS; and, Probation).
- Provides greater consistency in the implementation of regional office operations.
- Provides an opportunity for fiscal savings, (i.e., on mileage payments, utilities, and office equipment, etc.).
- Provides clients one centralized facility to access services as opposed to driving between two sites for services and resources.

Benefits to East/West Consolidation (Cont.):

- Significantly reduces the timeframe for case assignment/transfer on-site as opposed to cases having to be transported between two different locations leading to a delay in case assignment/transfer.
- Potential economic infusion stemming from staff and clients who will shop, dine, and do business in the area.

Drawbacks to East/West Consolidation:

- Concern that the City of Compton and surrounding communities may not have space options with sufficient square footage and parking to accommodate the Departments' needs.
- Potential impact to clients' travel and transportation needs resulting from relocation.
- Potential community concerns regarding impact to traffic, noise, and parking.

3. **Identify and submit office location alternatives, including benefits and drawbacks determining whether the preferred service delivery area of the City of Compton offers maximum opportunities to measurably improve client and community outcomes and leverage resources through the continuous integration of health, community and public safety services.**

Discussions have been held between DCFS, Compton Mayor, Second Supervisorial District Staff and CEO-RED, since February 2013. DCFS would like to combine Compton East and West facilities, but no specific sites have been identified within the City of Compton or its surrounding communities that meet the Department's capacity needs.

However, DCFS regional operations have recommended two potential cities in the Compton locality: 1) the City of Lynwood; and 2) the City of Paramount. These locations are in close proximity to the City of Compton, and are reasonably accessible by public transportation. By relocating to a nearby city, DCFS can maintain continuity of access services and relationships with community partners. This is important because the accessibility and continuity of supportive services will ensure that opportunities for timely family reunification are not negatively impacted by the consolidation and/or relocation of the Compton Regional offices.

Based upon DCFS' preliminary review, the consolidation of the Compton Regional offices appears to have substantial operational benefits, including the potential for more seamless services and increased fiscal savings. With the Board's permission, DCFS will continue to work with CEO-RED to explore the feasibility of this consolidation in further detail.

If you have any questions, please call me, or your staff may contact Germaine Key, Division Chief, Health and Safety Management at (213) 351-5727.

PLB:CMM
KLW:GK:gk

c: Acting Executive Officer
Interim Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel